

Message Text

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50

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 H-02 EB-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SAM-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 DODE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /051 W

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R 171042Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2522

INFO AMCONSUL OPORTO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 2208

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, BGEN, PO

SUBJ: UP-DATE ON U.S. BUSINESS SITUATION

REF: (A) LISBON 1925

(B) LISBON 1989

(C) LISBON 1620

1. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT FOUR TOP BLUE BELL OF PORTUGAL EXECUTIVES HAVE EITHER RESIGNED OR LEFT COUNTRY. PHONE CALL TO PLANT AND OFFICE INDICATED THAT FIRM STILL OPERATING NORMALLY AS OF NOON APRIL 16 BUT IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER THERE IS ANYONE HERE AUTHORIZED MAKE DECISIONS SHOULD THERE BE PROBLEMS. BLUE BELL EUROPE EXECUTIVES IN BRUSSELS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE FRIDAY (APRIL 18) IN MADRID BETWEEN THEM AND BLUE BELL'S PORTUGUESE LAWYERS. MEETING IS TO DISCUSS WHETHER PARENT FIRM (IN U.S. OR EUROPE) WILL ISSUE GUARANTEE BACKING UP LOCAL FIRM'S GUARANTEE THAT IT WILL RE-EXPORT (IN FINISHED FORM) THOSE PIECE GOODS IMPORTED DUTY-FREE FOR ASSEMBLY. PARENT'S GUARANTEE NOW REQUIRED BY BANKS BEFORE THEY WILL POST DUTY-FREE BOND. SHOULD GUARANTEE NOT BE ISSUED IMPORTS WILL CEASE AND PLANT WILL SHUT DOWN.

2. TORRINGTON PLANT (REF (B)) STILL OCCUPIED AND U.S. AND
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OTHER MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL STILL PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING.

EMBASSY ATTEMPTS ARRANGE MEETING BETWEEN TORRINGTON U.S. EX-EXECUTIVES AND LABOR MINISTER THUS FAR UNSUCCESSFUL. EMBASSY HAND-CARRIED REQUEST TO MINISTER'S CHIEF AIDE ON FRIDAY (APRIL 11) AND HAS FOLLOWED UP ON TWO SUBSEQUENT OCCASIONS. NO REPORTS OF VIOLENCE OR DAMAGE AT PLANT WHICH APPARENTLY IS OPERATING.

3. OFFICE OF MUELLER MONTAGEM (REF (C)) STILL OCCUPIED BY WORKERS. FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS MADE NO RESPONSE TO EMBASSY'S APRIL 3 WRITTEN REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE. MRS. MUELLER REPORTS LABOR MINISTRY MEDIATOR BADGERING HER TO SIGN POWER OF ATTORNEY ALLOWING WORKERS TO SIGN CHECKS OR CONTRACTS. (MR. MUELLER IS IN GERMANY ATTEMPTING LINE UP CONTRACTS, ACCORDING TO WIFE.) CARLUCCI

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 17 APR 1975
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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05 JUL 2006

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